

Department of Fisheries & Oceans: Newfoundland Region

Fisheries Research

Fisheries Research programs provide the scientific information necessary for the effective management and use of marine and freshwater fish resources in the Canadian Atlantic area in general and the Newfoundland/Labrador area in particular. Biological, ecological and stock assessment studies are carried out on the principal groundfish stocks (cod, haddock, American plaice, yellowtail, witch flounder, redfish and turbot); in the Newfoundland/Labrador shelf area; on pelagic stocks (herring, capelin and mackerel); shellfish (lobster, crab, shrimp, scallop and squid); marine mammals (harp and hooded seals and whales); and freshwater and anadromous stocks, including Atlantic salmon and Arctic char, in the principal rivers, lakes and coastal marine waters of the province. Information gathered ensures the best current estimates of stock abundance for prediction of yield and annual quota-setting, and provides the basis for advice to Canadian and foreign resource managers for conservation action leading to regulation and rational use of commercial and recreational fish stocks.

Tagging cod for migration study.



An Experimental Ecology Program undertakes research in a variety of areas to solve problems affecting marine and inland water fish stocks and habitats. Interaction of species, predator-prey relationships, parasites, natural or man-made contaminants and habitat management are just a few of the topics studied. Knowledge gained in this program is used in all other programs to promote more effective regulation and wise use of all fish resources.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans manages the annual Canadian seal hunt.



Economics

The Statistics and Computer Services Division of the Branch is responsible for compiling and distributing essential data on all phases of the fishing industry, including monthly and cumulative landings by species, production by species (including by-products), stocks of fish products, number and value of boats, gear and shore installations, and prices received by fishermen. All data collected on an individual fisherman, vessel or plant basis is kept strictly confidential.

Economists check landing and production figures.



Management Services

The Management Services Branch provides the Regional Director General, Branch Directors and program managers with the "in-house support and housekeeping" services necessary to ensure delivery of the department's various programs in the region. Financial management, government purchasing and special projects administration, for example, are handled by this Branch.

Research trawler WILFRED TEMPLEMAN makes her first entry into St. John's harbour.



The Economic and Commercial Analysis Division provides comprehensive economic advice in support of fisheries management in such areas as licence limitation, optimum size and composition of the domestic fishing fleet and allocation of access to resources between domestic and foreign fleets. The Division also provides economic advice to Species Advisory Committees, assesses proposed development projects in the primary and secondary industry sectors and evaluates commercial advantages for Canada — as in cooperative fishing ventures, for example — in administering the 200-mile fishing zone.

Below: testing automated, containerized longline gear. Right: installing fish hold liner.



Fisheries Operations

This Branch's three Divisions provide vital services directly to fishermen and processors.

Resource Management is responsible for the proper utilization of the region's commercial and recreational fish resources. This involves development of fishing plans and, through its Fisheries Officers, the monitoring of all fishing operations. In co-operation with Fisheries Research, the Division enforces regulations respecting fish habitat, supervises the annual seal hunt and manages the Fishery Observer Program in the region.

Fishermen's Assistance Plans administers the Fishing Vessel Insurance Plan and the Fishing Vessel Construction, Modification or Conversion Subsidy Plan.

Labrador. The Branch administers the Newfoundland Bait Program, which operates depots where bait fish is purchased, frozen, stored, and sold to ensure a continuous supply of bait for commercial fishermen.

The Development and Analysis Division acts as a catalyst in the development of commercial fisheries, identifying impediments to further development of the industry and devising and implementing programs and projects to remove such impediments. Activities include development of improved fishing gear and vessels, demonstration of new or modified fishing techniques, and exploratory voyages to find new fishing grounds. Projects are often carried out jointly with experts from industry, research/education institutes, the province or other nations. The Division is also responsible for the overall planning, analysis and evaluation functions associated with Fisheries Development programs in the Newfoundland Region.

Small Craft Harbours

The Small Craft Harbours Branch develops, maintains and administers fishing harbours and marina facilities at approximately 500 locations throughout the Newfoundland Region. Harbour managers are employed at some of the busier locations. Branch staff provides administration, financial and property management services, and includes members with engineering and prop-

erty development expertise. Field offices are located at St. John's and Grand Falls.

A close liaison exists with the Department of Public Works of Canada, which provides design, construction, maintenance and property acquisition services. Liaison is also maintained with other Fisheries and Oceans Branches to ensure that harbour development and related programs are in harmony with present and future needs of the fisheries. The Branch provides technical advice and financial assistance to projects approved under the Canada Community Development Program as meeting the program objectives of Small Craft Harbours. Assistance in dredging and the construction of breakwaters, wharves, launching ramps and other harbour facilities for recreational boating is also available through the Branch's marina assistance and tourist wharf programs.

Longliner and small boat harbours at Bonavista.



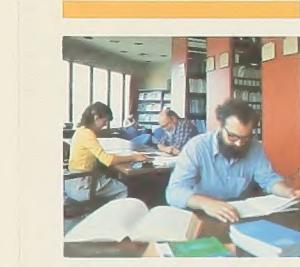
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Library, Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Centre.



The Department

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans of Canada is responsible for a wide range of activities, including: fisheries management and research in coastal and inland waters; fisheries economic development and marketing; international fisheries negotiations; oceanographic research; hydrographic surveying and charting; and the development and administration of fishing and recreational harbours.

The objectives of the department are to assure:

- the comprehensive husbandry and management of Canada's fisheries resources through the protection, rehabilitation and enhancement of fish stocks and their habitats;
- the provision of a national ocean information service;
- the provision and administration of a national system of commercial fishing and recreational boating harbours.

Taking a night-reading at hydrological station 27 outside St. John's harbour.



The Newfoundland Region

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans comprises four main organizational components: 1. Atlantic Fisheries 2. Pacific and Freshwater Fisheries 3. Fisheries Economic Development and Marketing 4. Ocean Science and Surveys. Most of the department's day-to-day

The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Centre, overlooking St. John's.



Fisheries Officer observes cod trap haul.



activities are carried out through several regional administrative and operational organizations established throughout Canada.

The Newfoundland Region is one of these. Until 1981, the region comprised the entire province of Newfoundland and Labrador. In that year, however, a new administrative area called the Gulf Region was established to manage those fisheries concentrated in Gulf of St. Lawrence/Strait of Belle Isle waters. The southwestern, western and northern coastal areas of Newfoundland and the southernmost part of Labrador were incorporated into the new region. The remainder of the province now comprises the Newfoundland Region.

Responsibilities

The Government of Canada, under the British North America Act, has exclusive legislative jurisdiction over Canada's coastal and inland fisheries. The Newfoundland Region takes full responsibility for the protection, conservation, enhancement and overall management of fish stocks and fish habitats throughout the coastal and inland waters of the region. This involves such activities as quota-setting, resource allocation, biological and hydrographic research, licensing of fishermen and fishing vessels and the development and enforcement of gear, season and other fisheries-related regulations.

Product inspection laboratory at the Centre.



The Newfoundland Region also undertakes major responsibilities in the areas of fisheries development and assistance, involving programs in technological development, product quality improvement, provision of bait to commercial fishermen, development of harbours and harbour facilities, market research and promotion, and provision of financial assistance to fishermen and other sectors of the industry through vessel insurance, subsidy programs and other financial aids.

Canadian Fisheries Officers inspect nets on board foreign trawler.



Organization

The Newfoundland Region has its headquarters in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Centre at St. John's. The regional organization is headed by a Regional Director General, who is responsible for the overall direction of fisheries management in the region, and for the co-ordination of programs with the provincial government and with other federal government departments and agencies.

The regional administration comprises a set of Branches and Divisions, as follows:

- Fisheries Research Branch: Marine Fisheries Management — Groundfish, Marine Fisheries Management — Pelagic, Shellfish and Marine Mammals; Freshwater and Anadromous Fisheries Management; Experimental Ecology; Regional Library;
- Economics Branch: Statistics and Computer Services Division; Economic and Commercial Analysis Division;

- Management Services Branch: Management Services; Vessel Management Division;
- Fisheries Operations Branch: Resource Management Division; Inspection and Technology Division; Fishermen's Assistance Plans;
- Fisheries Development Branch: Assistance and Operations Division; Development and Analysis Division; Newfoundland Bait Program;
- Small Craft Harbours Branch;
- Personnel Branch;
- Communications Division.

Left: seafood consultant in demonstration kitchen. Below: separating out compounds toxic to fish by a process called chromatography.



Area Offices

Many of the day-to-day activities of the Newfoundland Region, particularly in the areas of resource management, inspection, statistics collection, fishermen's assistance plans and small craft harbours, are carried out through three Area Offices. Their geographical areas of responsibility are the marine waters of the adjacent NAFO areas and the inland waters flowing into these. They are: 1. St. John's (3L: Cape St. Mary's to Cape Freels) 2. Grand Bank (3Ps: Burgeo area to Cape St. Mary's) 3. Grand Falls (3K2JHG: Cape Freels to Cape Bauld and Labrador coast from Cape St. Charles north). These are the "front line" positions of the regional organization and should be the first point of contact for fishermen or others who wish to deal with the department on any matter. They may be contacted as follows:

- Area Manager, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Newfoundland Region, P.O. Box 5667, St. John's, Nfld. A1C 5X1 (tel.: 772-4415);
- Area Manager, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Newfoundland Region, P.O. Box 580, Grand Bank, Nfld. A0E 1W0 (tel.: 832-1491);
- Area Manager, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Newfoundland Region, P.O. Box 459, Grand Falls, Nfld. A2A 2J8 (tel.: 489-6613).

Left: onboard cleaning and icing — keys to quality. Below: fish ladder on the Terra Nova River.



Fisheries Officers boarding foreign trawler.

